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Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Country programme document

Croatia

Summary

The country programme document (CPD) for the Republic of Croatia is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval at the present session, on a no-objection basis. The CPD is funded by other resources only, and includes a proposed aggregate indicative budget of $13,420,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2017 to 2021.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on the draft CPD that was shared 12 weeks before the second regular session of 2016.

* E/ICEF/2016/13.

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Programme rationale

1. Croatia is a country with an advanced legal framework, positive practices and well-established expertise in several child rights areas — with a growing number of citizens motivated to contribute to the chid rights agenda — a vibrant civil society, solid academic institutions and an expanding corporate sector. Because of these factors, Croatia has a high potential to address the remaining child rights challenges and equity gaps in the country and to increase its contribution to the protection and realization of child rights abroad.

2. Since 2003, the Government of Croatia and UNICEF have been jointly engaged in developing an innovative model of partnership, which has resulted in a number of positive results for children in the country and in a steady increase of joint support to child rights agendas beyond Croatian borders. In addition to leveraging resources for children, this support included the transfer of know-how and best practices to other countries in areas such as peer-violence prevention, parenting support and de-institutionalization, among others.

3. Significant progress in a number of child rights areas in Croatia was noted by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in its 2014 Concluding Observations on the combined third and fourth periodic reports of Croatia. While welcoming the achieved progress, the Committee also identified a number of areas that required improvement, and expressed concern about, inter alia, the situation of children in marginalized or disadvantaged situations.

4. In 2014, the Government of Croatia adopted a comprehensive National Strategy for Child Rights 2014-2020 (NSCR), defining core national priorities for the systemic advancement of child rights in Croatia. This Government of Croatia-UNICEF country partnership is fully aligned with the framework of NSCR and aims to contribute to the realization of its goals.

5. Since 2013, Croatia has been a member state of the European Union (EU). The global economic crisis contributed to the decline of its gross domestic product (GDP) and triggered a six-year long recession, from 2009 to 2014. This was reflected in the labour market, with increasing unemployment and insolvency rates, which translated into greater vulnerabilities for children in households with low work-intensity. Modest recovery from the recession started in 2015. However, the country is still facing high public debt, which reached a level of 86 per cent of GDP in 2015. Additional challenges include an aging population and declining birth rates. The crisis has had a negative impact on the well-being of children and widened equity gaps.

6. Poverty presents a significant risk for social exclusion and a range of psychosocial risks for children. Until 2011, the rate of children at risk of poverty was lower than the rate of risk of poverty for the total population. However, according to Eurostat data, in 2014 as many as 21.1 per cent of children in Croatia lived below the at-risk-of-poverty rate, while the corresponding rate for the total population was 19.4 per cent; nevertheless, an encouraging trend in the reduction of this rate for the general population as well as for children has been noted since 2012. Children who live in households with very low work-intensity, families with three or more dependent children, children from less populated areas and children living in single-parent families remain those most affected by poverty. In addition, children with disabilities (CWDs) and Roma children have been identified as those

with particular vulnerabilities. Social expenditures for children and families in Croatia remain below the EU average (1.5 per cent of GDP in Croatia as compared to 2.3 per cent of GDP in the EU on average).

7. Early childhood education (ECE) has been identified as one of the most important mechanisms for reducing equity gaps and mitigating the risk of child poverty. Access to ECE remains one of the key challenges in Croatia, particularly for the most vulnerable children. The average EU preschool participation rate stood at 93.9 per cent in 2013, whereas the Europe 2020 strategy aims at achieving a level of 95 per cent participation in ECE in all EU member states by the end of the decade. With the average preschool participation rate in 2014 at only 71.5 per cent for children between age 4 and the age of starting compulsory primary education, Croatia falls behind all other EU member states. Additionally, major geographic disparities are observed, with general preschool participation rates in some of the counties — such as Brod-Posavina County or Vukovar-Srijem County — remaining below an estimated 30 per cent. Also, there are significant challenges in access to ECE for several vulnerable groups of children, with Roma children's participation being as low as an estimated 38 per cent. A determinant analysis recently carried out revealed that progress in this area requires concerted efforts in knowledge-generation and communication for social change in order to influence existing beliefs, attitudes and practices related to ECE. Furthermore, equity-based policy dialogue and leveraging the increased and sustained investment in ECE will be crucial in this area.

8. Children with disabilities, as well as young children at risk of developmental delays and their families, continue to face challenges in the access to multisectoral early childhood intervention (ECI) services, a range of coordinated services supporting the development of children with disabilities and empowering their families. It is estimated that every year in Croatia some 4,000 children are born with the risk of developmental delays. However, recent Ministry of Social Policy and Youth data show that only 579 children accessed ECI services in 2014. Overcoming bottlenecks will require reinforcing intersectoral cooperation in this area and strengthening national and local capacities to plan and budget for modelling, as well as scaling up intersectoral, inclusive, community-based ECI services, in close partnership with parents and other caregivers.

9. Progress has been made towards securing the right of children to live in a supportive and caring family environment. The institutionalization of children without adequate parental care was reduced, with milestone legal provisions introduced in 2011, when the Act on Social Welfare prohibited the institutionalization of children under 7 years of age. Data from the Ministry of Social Policy and Youth show that the ratio of children without adequate parental care placed in social welfare institutions, compared to children placed in foster care, has improved (32 per cent for the former compared to 68 per cent for the latter, in 2014), and is on track to achieve the national goal of 20:80 by 2018. Still, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in its 2015 Concluding Observations on the initial report of Croatia, particular attention should be paid to the specific needs of children with disabilities, as well as to other groups of children overrepresented in institutions. Building on recent policies of the Government, additional strengthening of the capacities of the child protection system will be required to enable completing the shift from institutionalization of

vulnerable children towards provision of a continuum of services that effectively supports families and prevents family separation.

10. The number of reported cases of severe neglect of parental duties and rights, which grew by 28 per cent between 2012 and 2014, requires increased efforts in supporting families at risk of child separation, and other vulnerable families. This can be achieved by building on the results and lessons learned from the previous country partnership in Croatia, when major progress was made in knowledge-generation, capacity-building and influencing social norms and behaviours related to parenting. Further progress will require developing, introducing and scaling up successful models of parenting-support programmes based on the modern concept of positive parenting, especially to the benefit of the most vulnerable families.

11. Significant advancements were made in the area of child-friendly justice, with systemic improvements in the support provided to children victims and witnesses of crimes. There has been also a major increase in Croatia in the availability and quality of restorative and diversion measures for children in conflict with the law. The availability of out-of-court settlement for juvenile offenders was successfully expanded from 3 counties in 2011 to all 21 counties in 2015. Building on these results, there is a need to further increase the use of restorative and diversion measures, which show much higher rates of success in terms of non-reoffending rates, and which are currently used in only 13.9 percent of cases, according to the 2014 State Attorney's Office report. Additionally, supporting the access of vulnerable groups of children and their families to child rights institutions will be required. In order to overcome the remaining barriers and achieve further progress in this area, communication for social change strategies and further strengthening cross-sectoral cooperation and capacities among key stakeholders will be required.

12. Over the past two years, Croatia responded to two major emergency situations. In 2014 Croatia and the neighbouring countries were severely affected by floods. Since September 2015 the country has been making major efforts in responding to the large-scale refugee and migrant crisis in Europe, with over 650,000 persons having transited through the country by March 2016, more than one third of whom were children. In both crises, Croatian authorities and civil society generally demonstrated high levels of solidarity with the affected populations, and UNICEF provided support in meeting the needs and rights of children and women on the move. Based on the lessons learned from these experiences, particularly taking into account that Croatia is prone to several types of natural disasters, there is need to further strengthen national and local capacities, so as to encourage a child-sensitive and gender-sensitive approach in emergency preparedness and response, and to build the resilience of potentially affected populations.

13. Collection and analysis of disaggregated data that are consistent and representative of the situation of all children, especially those living in situations of vulnerability, remain a challenge. In that context, the Committee on the Rights of the Child urged Croatia to expeditiously improve its data collection system. The Committee further recommended evidence-based formulation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes. An important initial step in that direction was made through the efforts of the national working group for the establishment of national Child-Wellbeing Indicators, which has been active since mid-2015 under the leadership of the Ministry of Social Policy and Youth, with UNICEF support. Further progress calls for strengthening the capacities of key data providers to

enhance data collection systems and to assure easy access to consistent data across sectors with the aim of reliable monitoring of progress for children.

14. Results achieved through the past and ongoing Government of Croatia-UNICEF partnerships have resonated with the public, motivating a growing number of individuals and corporate partners to engage in promoting positive change for children, in Croatia and abroad. By the end of 2015, over 42,000 citizens of Croatia were engaged with UNICEF as regular supporters, which is approximately 1 per cent of the overall population, a significant rise from 2011, when the number of supporters was 5,500. There is a potential for strengthening the links with supporters and broadening their engagement as agents of change for children in Croatia and abroad.

Programme priorities and partnerships

15. The midterm review (MTR) of the 2012-2016 country partnership confirmed the relevance of the broad alliance for children created in Croatia within the framework of the Government of Croatia-UNICEF partnership and the high level of recognition for the role of UNICEF as convener and mobilizer of various stakeholders around child rights issues. The MTR recommended that the partnership continue to contribute to the domestic child rights agenda and further increase support for horizontal cooperation between Croatia and other countries.

16. The overall goal of the 2017-2021 country partnership is to support Croatia to further advance its progress towards the sustained realization of children's rights in the country and to maximize the potential of Croatia to support the well-being of children beyond its borders. This will be achieved by fostering the stronger commitment, cooperation and contribution of the many stakeholders already engaged in supporting child rights. Promoting innovative partnerships and platforms for child rights, with a special focus on early childhood development (ECD) and child protection, will be critical to accelerating results for children.

17. With the aim of ensuring equal opportunities for all children, particular attention will be paid to the most vulnerable boys and girls and their families. These include children with disabilities and children at risk of developmental delays, children without adequate parental care, families at risk of child separation, children at risk of violence, abuse or neglect, children in contact with the justice system, Roma boys and girls, other children at risk of poverty and social exclusion, and children from rural and isolated areas, as well as children facing emergency situations.

18. The country partnership will directly contribute to several national priorities, particularly to the goals of the NSCR 2014-2020 and the National Roma Inclusion Strategy 2013-2020. It will also support Government-led efforts within the Europe 2020 strategy plans, particularly in the areas of education and the fight to end social exclusion. The partnership equally aspires to contributing to several priority areas identified in the draft National Strategy for Development Cooperation 2015-2020.

19. Joint efforts in the framework of this partnership will address several recommendations of the human rights bodies to Croatia, particularly those of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Furthermore, in this partnership Croatia will contribute to the

realization of Sustainable Development Goals as well as to the four priority areas of the newly adopted Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child 2016-2021.

20. Major partners that are critical for achieving the outlined priorities include, but are not limited to: the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Ministry of Social Policy and Youth, Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, Croatian Education and Teacher Training Agency, Ministry of Health, National Institute for Public Health, Ministry of Justice, Judicial Academy, Office of the Ombudsperson, Ombudsperson for Children and Her Young Advisors, Ombudsperson for Persons with Disabilities, Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, Council for Children, regional and local governments, several faculties and research institutions, civil society organizations working on child rights issues, Croatian Red Cross Association, National Protection and Rescue Directorate, Croatian Bureau of Statistics, Croatian Employers' Association, Institute for Public Financing, corporate sector, media and individual supporters.

21. Key priorities for the country partnership will be addressed through three partnership components: early childhood development, child protection, and innovative partnerships and platforms for child rights, supported by the programme effectiveness component.

Early childhood development

22. This component will support equal opportunities for ECD for vulnerable children in Croatia, with special attention given to ECI and ECE subcomponents. It will focus on children at risk of poverty and social exclusion, children from isolated and rural areas, Roma children, children with disabilities and children at risk of developmental delays. This component will contribute to the achievement of the following outcome: by 2021, the Government of Croatia implements appropriately resourced inclusive ECE and multisectoral ECI policies at national and subnational levels, with a special focus on the most vulnerable children. This will be achieved mainly by facilitating national dialogue and strengthening national and local capacities in those areas, as well as by fostering dialogue and partnership with parents.

23. The ECE subcomponent will directly contribute to the realization of the NSCR goal that envisages the establishment of a network of preschool institutions to fully integrate, by 2020, all children in preschool education for at least two years before the transition to school. Direct contribution will be made also to the NSCR goal aiming at improving the education of Roma children. The ECI subcomponent directly contributes to the NSCR goal regarding the development of timely, comprehensive and accessible services of ECI for children with disabilities, and children at risk of developmental delays and their parents.

24. Alliances with stakeholders currently contributing, or with the potential to contribute, to securing sufficient and adequate ECE and ECI services in Croatia (including line ministries, academia, ombudspersons' offices, civil society organizations, contributors from the private sector and the media, among others) will be further expanded and strengthened to increase cooperation and maximize the contribution of each stakeholder to the set goals. Communication for social change will be used to increase public awareness, promote public dialogue and influence positive attitudes and beliefs related to this issue. Particular attention will be paid to

ECD of Roma girls in order to support their care and education and related outcomes.

25. The component will benefit from the good practices and innovative models of ECE and ECI developed in Croatia and abroad, and will foster knowledge-generation and knowledge-exchange in that respect. UNICEF will provide technical support in identifying, testing, documenting and validating specific models, as well as in facilitating in-country and beyond-border knowledge-sharing. The component will also address the need for sustained investment in ECD, including adequate levels of funding for expanding coverage of those services, through policy dialogue, evidence-generation, modelling, knowledge-exchange and technical support in the area of public funding for children.

26. Relevant authorities across the public sector will be supported to improve governance, accountability and monitoring systems for ECD services, which will further inform evidence-based policy development. Fostering cross-sectoral cooperation among health, social welfare and education sectors will be crucial, particularly to achieve progress in access to ECI. Comprehensive ECI services will contribute to the participation of children with disabilities in ECE and school.

Child protection

27. This component will focus on strengthening the child protection system in Croatia, emphasizing enhancing the capacity of the country to realize the rights of children to live free from violence, neglect, abuse, exploitation or social exclusion, to live in a caring and supportive family environment, to be adequately protected in emergencies, and to benefit from a child-friendly justice system. The component will build on past and ongoing efforts made by the Government of Croatia-UNICEF partnership and other stakeholders in this area, and it will contribute to the following outcome: by 2021, the Government of Croatia will implement an improved and equitable policy for the prevention of and response to violence, abuse, exploitation and exclusion of the most vulnerable children.

28. Building on the progress achieved over the past few years, this component strives to further contribute to ensuring a safe and stimulating environment for all children, particularly for those living with families at risk. This component will reduce the reliance on residential care through a progressive shift towards provision of a continuum of services that effectively prevents family separation. Complementing the ECD component above, this component will support the reduction in the placement of children with disabilities into residential care. Efforts will contribute to the NSCR goal aiming at ensuring the conditions for a safe and quality development of all children within a family environment. Modelling of parenting support programmes will continue, with a focus on families at risk. A gender-sensitive approach will engage mothers and fathers equally. After validation, successful parenting-support models will be promoted abroad through horizontal cooperation, within the framework of the third component of this country partnership.

29. In the area of justice for children, the partnership will build on the recent successes and lessons learned through working with justice system professionals who are dealing with children victims and witnesses at criminal courts. This component will extend the scope of technical support to include civil and misdemeanour proceedings to better steward children's contact with the justice system. The capacities of the justice system to identify and address potential gender

biases in justice-related practices and procedures will be further strengthened. Furthermore, technical support aiming at a wider use of alternative sanctions for children and youth in conflict with the law will be made available. Through public advocacy and communication for social change, societal beliefs preferring punitive measures for children in conflict with the law will be addressed. Cross-sectoral cooperation and adequate support to families of children and youth in conflict with the law will be crucial for achieving results. The scope of partnership in this area will be extended through provision of a platform through which the most vulnerable children may strengthen their access to child rights institutions, in cooperation with Ombudsperson for Children and other key actors.

30. As a follow-up to the recommendation of the MTR, and also based on the lessons learned from the response to two emergency situations, in 2014 (floods) and 2015 (children on the move), the country partnership will strengthen the capacities in Croatia to prepare for and provide adequate child-sensitive and gender-sensitive response to the needs of children in crisis situations. This will be achieved through policy dialogue and the provision of technical support at national and subnational levels. Additionally, in the case of a large-scale crisis affecting Croatia, UNICEF will remain available to support Croatia through its Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action. Furthermore, the partnership will focus on leveraging resources for children affected by emergencies globally.

Innovative partnerships and platforms for child rights

31. This component aims at maximizing the potential of Croatia to support and promote children's rights domestically, regionally and globally. This will be achieved by mobilizing innovative and sustainable child rights platforms through creating and maintaining well-structured forms of cooperation on specific child rights issues. These will enable the stronger commitment, cooperation and contribution of various stakeholders and it will accelerate equity-focused results for children, domestically and beyond. UNICEF will take on the role of convener and promotor of these platforms, encouraging the participation of children.

32. Croatia has developed a number of good practices and advanced policies in several child rights areas, such as in peer-violence prevention, parenting support, and de-institutionalization, among others. In the framework of Croatian efforts to support child well-being in other countries, as well as to facilitate knowledge exchange with other countries, a platform for sharing validated good practices will be established in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. It is expected that by 2021 at least 10 countries will benefit from this sharing of good practices between Croatia and other countries.

33. The Office of the Ombudsperson for Children is one of the key child rights monitoring mechanisms in Croatia, used by a significant number of children and families facing challenges in the realization of their rights. Building on the lessons learned and the identified needs and opportunities, cooperation with this institution will be further strengthened in two ways: through awareness-raising on the work of this institution among the most vulnerable groups of children in Croatia, aiming at supporting their access to justice, and through international promotion of this institution in the framework of horizontal cooperation.

34. The corporate sector in Croatia is increasingly motivated to promote corporate social responsibility and contribute to advancing child rights in an integrated

manner. Strategic partnerships with the corporate sector will mobilize the economic influence of the private sector as well as its advocacy potential, maximizing the sector's contribution to child rights in Croatia and abroad. One of the key partners in this platform will be the Croatian Association of Employers, which is also a lead association of the UN Global Compact initiative in Croatia.

35. By end-2015, over 42,000 individual supporters were contributing to the realization of the goals set in the Government of Croatia-UNICEF partnership. Additional opportunities will be seized for enhanced engagement of existing and new supporters, with efforts guided by the results of a recent survey. Particular attention will be paid to the engagement of youth as agents of change, through a combination of child rights education and the promotion of solidarity among and with youth.

36. Building on recent progress in the establishment of new national child well-being indicators, this component will reinforce the platform established for that purpose. It will continue the joint efforts being made for strengthening the data collection system supporting evidence-based policies and practices, in line with the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. Through this platform, the country partnership will provide support to the capacity development of relevant providers of data and the technical assistance needed to introduce improvements within the administrative system for statistical data collection, aiming to foster and strengthen cross-sectoral alignment of data collection. In addition to methodological adjustments, this will also bring about increased quality assurance, better-established plans for data usage and dissemination, and more clearly defined roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders.

Programme effectiveness

37. This component will support the activities related to programme implementation, including technical and strategic assistance. It covers the costs of cross-cutting positions such as programme performance-monitoring and communications.

Summary budget table

	(In thousands of United States dollars)		
Programme component	*Regular resources*	*Other resources*	*Total*
Early childhood development	0	4 820	4 820
Child protection	0	4 100	4 100
Innovative partnerships and platforms for child rights	0	2 600	2 600
Programme effectiveness	0	1 900	1 900
Total	**0**	**13 420**	**13 420**

Programme and risk management

38. This CPD outlines the broad contributions of UNICEF to the national and international results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at

country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and global levels with respect to the country partnership are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

39. The UNICEF country management team will coordinate the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the country partnership and the compliance with the United Nations Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT). Workplans will be developed together with government partners to operationalize the partnership and will be monitored through periodic reviews.

40. The main risks that could hamper the achievement of expected results pertain to the financial and economic environment. Reducing public expenditures related to children and families might occur in the framework of potential austerity measures. This risk will be mitigated through joint risk-informed planning, enhanced cross-sectoral cooperation, knowledge-generation and technical support aimed at increasing the availability and effectiveness of resources invested in children and families, among other areas. It will also be mitigated through provision of technical support for seizing opportunities to benefit from EU and other funds, and through enhanced monitoring of the impact of investments on the most vulnerable children and families. Furthermore, through innovative platforms, the investment of the private sector in the rights of the most vulnerable children and families will be increased.

Monitoring and evaluation

41. In the realization of this country partnership, UNICEF will continue to operate under the overall coordination of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. Progress made towards the established goals of the country partnership will be closely monitored through joint annual meetings of all key partners, which will serve as a platform for joint planning, assessment and eventual adjustments in the country partnership.

42. The partnership will support national efforts to strengthen child rights monitoring mechanisms and implement data collection methodologies that will provide reliable and comparable disaggregated data on children, particularly those belonging to vulnerable groups, and will enable identification of existing equity gaps.

43. Critical gaps in data and information will be overcome by the conducting of a comprehensive child rights situation analysis and a national gender-issues review, as well as several evaluations and UNICEF-supported surveys and studies, focusing particularly on vulnerable groups of children. These efforts will further enable monitoring the progress made towards set goals and promote Croatian good practices abroad.

Annex

Results and resources framework

Government of Croatia-UNICEF country partnership 2017-2021

Articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 36, 37, 39, 40

National priorities:

Sustainable Development Goals
1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2016-2021) priority areas
1. Equal opportunities for all children
2. Participation of all children
3. A life free from violence for all children
4. Child-friendly justice for all children

National Strategy for the Rights of Children (2014-2020) national goals
1. Provision of child-friendly services and systems
2. Eliminating all forms of violence against children
3. Ensuring the rights of children in vulnerable situations
4. Ensuring the active participation of children

UNDAF outcomes involving UNICEF: *not applicable*
Outcome indicators measuring change that includes UNICEF contribution: *not applicable*

Related UNICEF Strategic Plan outcomes: (from the Strategic Plan 2014-2017)
1. (Health): Improved and equitable use of high-impact maternal and child health interventions, from pregnancy to adolescence, and promotion of healthy behaviours
5. (Education): Improved learning outcomes and equitable and inclusive education
6. (Child protection): Improved and equitable prevention of and response to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect of children
7. (Social inclusion): Improved policy environment and systems for disadvantaged and excluded children, guided by improved knowledge and data

UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines and targets	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (in thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
Outcome 1: By 2021 the Government implements appropriately resourced inclusive early childhood education (ECE) and multisectoral early childhood intervention (ECI) policies at national and subnational levels, with special focus on the most vulnerable children	Attendance rate in ECE (total and disaggregated by sex) Baseline: (a) Total: 71.5% (2014) of the children in the 4-6 age group who participate in ECE Male – 71.5% (2014) Female – 71.5% (2014) (b) Total: 38% (2014) of Roma children who participate in ECE Male – 38% Female – 38% Target: (a) Total: 94% (2021) of the children in the 4-6 age group who participate in ECE Male – 94% (2021) Female – 94% (2021) (b) Total: 70% (2021) of Roma children who participate in ECE Male – 70% (2021) Female – 70% (2021)	Eurostat data on children's participation in ECE as a percentage of the corresponding age group Ministry of Science, Education and Sports (MSES) reports on Roma children involved in ECE; estimation of cohorts based on MSES reports on school-age children	Models of inclusive ECE services (equal accessibility and quality education) as well as integrated ECI policies (timely multidisciplinary and multisector intervention) are identified established, tested, documented and validated National and local authorities have evidence, best practices and technical advice on driving legislation, improving financial resourcing and implementing the inclusive ECE and integrated ECI policies for the most vulnerable children National capacities are strengthened to promote and support inclusive ECE and integrated ECI policies for the most vulnerable children	MSES, Ministry of Health, MSPY, Ombudsperson for Children, Ombudsperson for Persons with Disabilities, Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, members of Parliament, regional and local self-government; Croatian Education and Teacher Training Agency, University of Zagreb Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, Croatian National Institute for Public Health, parents' associations, national and local civil society organizations (CSOs), national TV and other media	0	4 820	4 820
	Number of ECI beneficiaries Baseline: 579 (2014) Target: at least 1,200 (2021)	Ministry of Social Politics and Youth (MSPY) annual reports on provided ECI services					

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines and targets*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership framework*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
Outcome 2: By 2021 the Government implements improved and equitable policy for prevention and response to violence, abuse, exploitation and exclusion of the most vulnerable children	Percentage of alternative sanctions (special obligations, reprimand excluded) out of all sanctions imposed on juvenile offenders in misdemeanour proceedings Baseline: 11.8% (624 in 2014) Target: 30% in 2021	Statistical Yearbook 2015 and Ministry of Justice administrative reports	All relevant stakeholders have evidence and technical advice on driving legislation and budgeting for child protection Professionals involved in child protection and justice have strengthened capacities for effective implementation and monitoring of child-friendly and gender-sensitive justice Social welfare, education and health professionals have enhanced capacities for provision of inclusive family and community-based services for the most vulnerable children, including children affected by emergency situations. Parent-support programmes reach particularly vulnerable families	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, MSPY, Ministry of the Interior, Municipal and county courts; Office for Human Rights, Offices of Ombudspersons, Faculty of Law of the Department for Social Work Judicial Academy, University of Zagreb Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, Croatian Red Cross Association, National protection and rescue directorate, Centres for Social Work, foster care associations, and other national and local CSOs	0	4 100	4 100
	Number of prosecutors' offices and municipal courts applying child- friendly procedures Baseline: TBD in 2017 Target: TBD in 2017	Ministry of Justice administrative reports and UNICEF country office annual reports					
	Percentage of children and youth deprived of parental care who are in foster care, out of all children in formal care Baseline: TBD in 2017 Target: TBD in 2017	MSPY					
	Children (ages 0-17) living in institutions (total and disaggregated by sex) Baseline: TBD in 2017 Target: TBD in 2017	MSPY administrative reports on children and youth in public care					

UNICEF outcomes	Key progress indicators, baselines and targets	Means of verification	Indicative country programme outputs	Major partners, partnership frameworks	Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)		
					RR	OR	Total
Outcome 3: By 2021, innovative partnerships and child rights platforms enable the increased commitment, cooperation and contribution of various stakeholders to the protection and realization of child rights in Croatia and beyond its borders	Number of countries that incorporate good Croatian practices and models Baseline: 2 in 2015 Target: At least 10 in 2021	Government of Croatia reports and UNICEF country office annual reports	Sustainable platforms for the exchange of knowledge and best practices between Croatia and other countries are established Public and private (corporate and individual) sectors are supported to increase their engagement and investment in the protection and realization of child rights in Croatia and abroad National capacities are strengthened for developing evidence-based policies and for effectively monitoring their implementation Children, especially those from vulnerable groups, are supported to access child rights institutions	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatian Employers' Association, Council for Children, Offices of Ombudspersons, Institute for Public Finances, Croatian Bureau of Statistics, Croatian Chamber of Commerce	0	2 600	2 600
	Number of individuals supporting the realization of goals defined in the Government of Croatia – UNICEF country partnership Baseline: 42,000 in 2015 Target: 49,000 by 2021	UNICEF country office annual reports					
	Effectiveness of national child rights monitoring framework Baseline: Partial Committee on the Rights of the Child 2014 Concluding Observations (CRC/C/HRV/CO/3-4, September 2014) Target: Progress noted by Committee on the Rights of the Child in comparison to the September 2014 Committee review	Committee's Concluding Observations regarding national child rights monitoring framework					
	Number of queries brought to Office of the Ombudsperson for Children by children or their representatives Baseline: 1,456 queries in 2015 Target: At least 1,800 queries annually by 2021	Ombudsperson for Children annual reports					

UNICEF outcomes	*Key progress indicators, baselines and targets*	*Means of verification*	*Indicative country programme outputs*	*Major partners, partnership frameworks*	*Indicative resources by country programme outcome: regular resources (RR), other resources (OR) (In thousands of United States dollars)*		
					RR	*OR*	*Total*
Outcome 4: The Government of Croatia–UNICEF country partnership meets quality standards in achieving results for children	The country partnership is: (a) effectively designed; (b) coordinated; (c) managed, and (d) supported Baseline: yes Target: yes	Country partnership	Guidance, tools and resources to effectively and efficiently design and manage the programme of cooperation are available to UNICEF and its partners. Guidance, tools and resources to effectively generate, analyse, and utilize statistical and qualitative information for Child Rights Monitoring system are available in the country. Guidance, tools and resources for effective communication on child rights issues with stakeholders are available to UNICEF and its partners. Strategies to address cross-cutting issues related to child rights are developed and applied throughout the programme of cooperation	All UNICEF partners in Croatia	0	1 900	1 900
Total resources					**0**	**13 420**	**13 420**